



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 21, 2003

S. 1280

An act to amend the PROTECT Act to clarify certain volunteer liability

As passed by the Senate on July 14, 2003

The PROTECT Act (Public Law 108-21) established a pilot program within the Department of Justice (DOJ) to conduct background checks for volunteer organizations that provide services to children. Under the pilot program, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children determines the fitness of potential volunteers based on the results of the background checks. S. 1280 would provide immunity to the center and its employees from liability in certain civil suits alleging harm resulting from decisions made in carrying out the pilot program.

CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would result in no costs to the federal government. S. 1280 would not affect direct spending or revenues. The act contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.